The Black Mirror News
Reflections

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VOL. 6, NO. 7 • AUGUST 2001

BOBBY BLUE BLAND
...comes to Newark
(see page 2)

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"SOMETHING FROM THE PAST"
– see pages 16 & 17

To love my people shouldn't imply I hate others ...
(AUTHOR UNKNOWN)

NEW JERSEY EDITION

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THE BLACK MIRROR NEWS
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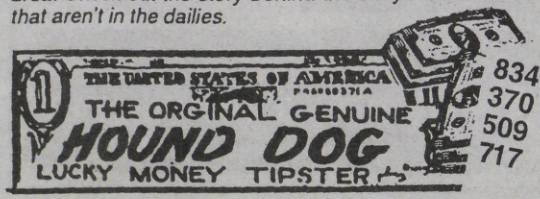

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POLLY TICKS

This column – which is exclusive to *The Black Mirror News* will bring the "truth" to our community when others "lie."

The Big Game

The Primary Election is over, both the democrats and republicans have chosen their candidates to represent their respective political parties in the November General Election.

This fall, in New Jersey, Control of the State Legislature and Governor's Office are up for grabs. The Republicans currently control both the State Legislature and the Governor's Office. Ask the mayor of any of our state's inner-cities what this means and they will all give the same answer, a lack of sufficient state-aid and indifference to the unfair property tax burden falling on the shoulders of urban tax payers.

The really important race affecting our community will be the contest for the Office of Governor. The Governor of New Jersey, is among the most powerful political offices in the United States, second only to that of the President.

After eight years of Republican control of the Governor's Office (remember Christine Todd Whitman?) The people of New Jersey have some soul-searching to do. Many of the so-called middle-class taxpayers jumped on the Republican bandwagon because Old Governor Whitman promised big-time cuts. She did not tell us what those tax cuts would cost us.

Well, the Republicans delivered on their tax cut promise, but it turned out to be a "slight-of-hand trick. The stupid among us applauded when the Republicans lowered the tax rates on our personal incomes and they said nothing when the Republicans cut Financial Aid to Municipalities, which led to higher local property taxes.

After almost four years of so-called Republican tax cuts, what do the people of New Jersey have:

1. Higher local property taxes
2. The largest amount of state debt in history
3. The highest auto insurance rates
4. Insufficient money to run schools
5. An automobile inspection system that does not work.

What we need to decide is which of the two political parties and their candidate's best represent the interest of our families and community.

In November, we will have a chance to change all of this, but first, we all have to be registered to vote!

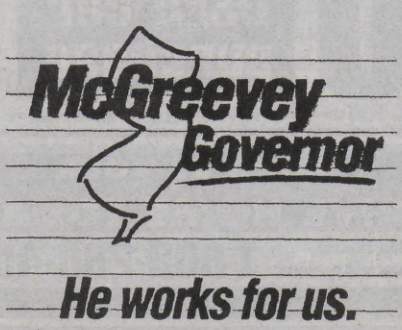
The race for Governor in New Jersey offers us a clear choice. Jim McGreevey, the Democrat, believes in gun control, a woman's right to choose, he supports Affirmative Action.

Bret Schundler, the Republican, is opposed to gun control, he opposes a woman's right to choose, and he is against Affirmative Action.

These two candidates offer very clear differences in their political philosophy.

This time we will not be fooled, we will not vote for a person who does not support issues that are important to us.

The Democratic Party is the clear choice for our community, and Jim McGreevey is the man for Governor of New Jersey.



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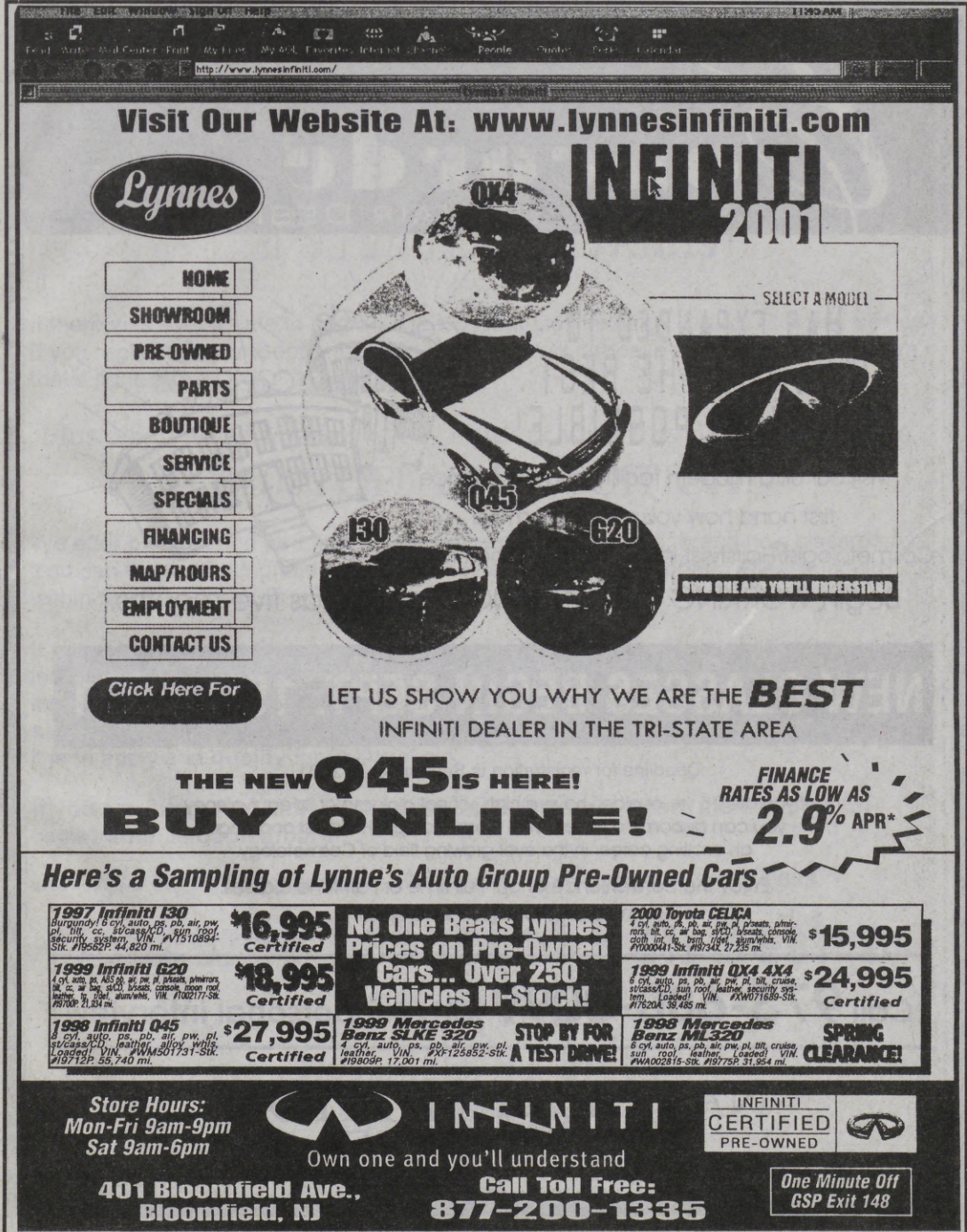
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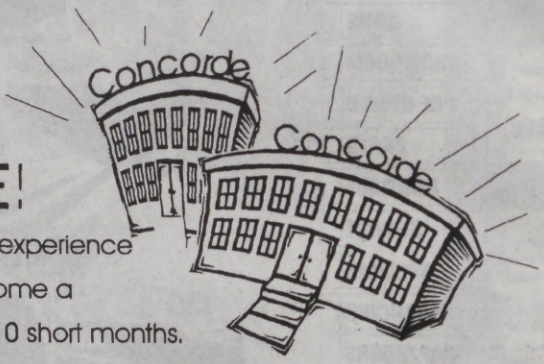

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ESSEX COUNTY DEMOCRATICS ANNUAL AFFAIR...

The Essex County Democratic Committee held its Annual Spring Dinner and Hall of Fame Awards Gala at the Mayfair Farms, NJ. Over 700 people attended the Dinner and Cocktail Party on Thursday, May 21, 2001.

The 2001 Hall of Fame Inductees included: Freeholder Linda Lordi Cavanaugh, former NJ Senate President Fran J. (Pat) Dodd, U.S. Senator Frank R. Lautenberg and Alvin Smith, Montclair Democratic Chairman and former Essex County Prosecutor Detective.

CAVANAUGH HONORED: L-R: Catherine Willis, East Orange Democratic Chair presenting the Hall of Fame Award to Freeholder Linda Lordi Cavanaugh and Essex

ALL SMILES: L-R: Assemblyman Wilfredo Caraballo, Assemblywoman soon to be Senator, Nia H. Gill, and Freeholder Anthony Jackson.

LISTEN CAREFULLY: L-R: Freeholder Patricia Sebold, Essex County Surrogate Joseph P. Brennan, Jr. and Jim McGreevey, Democratic Candidate for Governor.

OLD FRIENDS: L-R: U.S. Congressman Joseph G. Minish (1963-1985) former Essex County Assemblyman and Senator Frank J. (Pat) Dodd (14 years), and Chairman Thomas P. Giblin.

MONTCLAIR ALL: L-R: Assembly woman Nia H. Gill, Montclair Chair Al Smith receiving his Hall of Fame Award and Chairman Thomas P. Giblin.

DO YOU HEAR ME: L-R: Mayor Sharpe James made a rousing speech to the capacity crowd at Mayfair Farms, West Orange.

WASHINGTON TALKS TO TRENTON: L-R: U.S. Senator Jon Corzine talks politics with Assemblywoman Nia H. Gill.

ESSEX COUNTY EMPLOYEES: L-R: Norman P. Mitchell of East Orange, Martin P. Kelly of Montclair, Chairman Thomas P. Giblin and Daniel Williams, President Newark Branch NAACP, Mitchell Kelly and Williams all work together at the Essex County Hall of Records.

NEWARK'S OWN: L-R: Cleopatra Tucker and Newark Councilman and Assemblyman Donald K. Tucker.

BLOOMFIELD DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES: L-R: Bernard Hamilton, Candidate for Council, Ray McCarthy, Candidate for Mayor and Thomas P. Giblin, Essex County Democratic Chair.

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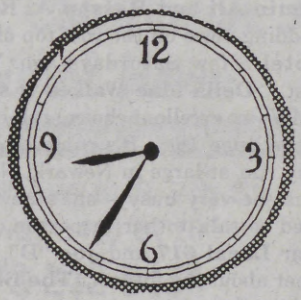
TAKE TIME FOR 10 THINGS . .



1. TAKE TIME TO WORK . . . . . .
   It is the price of success.

2. TAKE TIME TO THINK . . . . . .
   It is the source of power.

3. TAKE TIME TO PLAY . . . . . .
   It is the secret of youth.

4. TAKE TIME TO READ . . . . . .
   It is the foundation of knowledge.

5. TAKE TIME TO WORSHIP . . . . . .
   It is the highway of reverence and washes the dust of earth from our eyes.

6. TAKE TIME TO HELP AND ENJOY FRIENDS . . .
   It is the source of happiness.

7. TAKE TIME TO LOVE . . . . . .
   It is the one sacrment of life.

8. TAKE TIME TO DREAM . . . . . .
   It hitches the soul to the stars.

9. TAKE TIME TO LAUGH . . . . . .
   It is the singing that helps with life's loads.

10. TAKE TIME TO PLAN . . . . . .
    It is the secret of being able to have time to take time for the first nine things!

AFTER HOURS

Daniel Eatman moving his **Burger King** (on the left hand side) on Market Street and University Avenue to the right hand side. Recently received a windfall of $3.95 million for the former property... **Jamin Ali** and **Hassan A. Rahman** took their wedding vows on the roof top of the **Robert Treat Hotel** a few Saturdays ago. We wish them the best... **Della Mae Walker** is selling her mother's BMW (an excellent choice) call her *(see her Weichert ad on page 18)*... It's rumored that **Cory Booker** may run at-large in Newark, NJ... **Christy Davis** must be very busy – she's never in for folks who need to talk to her in person... We would like to hear **Local 617** and **Joe "D"**, talking to one another about the future... **The Black Mirror News'** looking for a teenage columnist – smiles... **Denise Hamilton**, one of the classiest singer's today, had a summer fling at her home in Montclair and everyone was present – smiles... **Sgt. Harrison Coleman Jr.** retired with honors and a host of one or two hundred folks in June... **Minister Louis Farrakhan** reminds us parents to take better care of our children: "teach them by the golden rule, and know where they are at all times".... **Ms. Dawn Edmonds** down at the **NJPAC's Thursday Nite Fling** – just strolling... We went to **Audrey West's** Retirement Party at the **Newark Museum**. It was held in garden and indoors, too – what a terrific time we had! Some of the best dressed people around were there, including doctors, lawyers and top union folks... Glad to see **Joseph Chaneyfield** up and around... The **100 Black Men of New Jersey** sponsoring screening of prostate program for Black and Hispanic men. There was Screening this month at St. Michael's Medical Center in Newark, Mt. Olivet Baptist Church in Hackensack and West New York Family Planning Center... *Circle This Date:* the **Citizens to Elect Sharpe James** invited you to join them for fun and entertainment at Craigmeur Recreation Complex Newfoundland, NJ for a **FAMILY PICNIC, Sunday, August 5, 2001 from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.** Adult Advanced Ticket Price: $35.00. (Advance ticket sales through August 1, 2001) Thereafter: tickets can only be purchased on the day of the picnic at $40.00 each.

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FALLING LEAVES

PEGGY JENKINS, 64
volunteer worker, political activist

A graduate of Central High School in Newark, Mrs. Jenkins was a teen columnist with the Afro-American Newspaper in the mid-1950s. She was a community organizer and president of the Newark NAACP Youth Council in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Mrs. Jenkins also worked for Western Electric Co. in Union Township for 15 years, and left in the early 1980s to start "We're at Your Service," a residential cleaning service. Mrs. Jenkins helped organize several demonstrations during the civil rights movement, and then fought to help African-Americans win public office.

She, along with other members of the African Methodist Episcopal church denomination visited South Africa to help build a nursery school near Johannesburg. After a first visit in 1991, she returned two years later with money for the school. During the second visit, she met Nelson Mandela, who had been released from prison. Other activities were less public. Mrs. Jenkins visited children suffering with AIDS, stopping at wards at University Hospital and elsewhere.

MAURICE VENERI, 89
labor representative
During a decades-ling career as a labor leader, Mr. Veneri rose through the ranks and spoke out extensively on issues of interest to the working man. He was employed at Westinghouse in Newark, was president of Local 426, International Union of Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, AFL-CIO. He was also assistant to the president of IUE's District 3, representing thousands of workers in New York and New Jersey. He was subsequently elected president of the NJ Industrial Union Council.

JOE HENDERSON, 64
Sax master
Winner of four Grammys in the 1990s, he had not played or recorded since suffering a stroke in late 1998. But the 1990s were Henderson's decade, bringing him a degree of recognition he failed to receive in earlier years, desite his reputation among fellow musicians, and some critics, as one of the most original and inventive tenor saxophonists of his generation.

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Cicely Tyson School of Performing and Fine Arts
"Something From The Past"

...recently performed by the sensationally talented students at the Cicely Tyson School of Performing and Fine Arts, absolutely delighted and bemused the audience, with excerpts from the *"Wiz," "Purlie," "West Side Story," "A Chorus Line,"* and *"Cats"*. Each vinette was interwoven into a satirical story that brought peals of laughter from the audience. The members of the cast Rachel Suber, Adam Rogers, Dawud Ingram, Zania, Saul, Keenya Logan, Odessie Nestor, Forté Brookins, Mina Carr, Melissa Suber, Latoya Rose, Fayola Navarro, Britteny Thurmond, Shalonda Wanamaker, and Buddah (Toto, *Dorothy's dog*) were wonderful. *"Something From the Past"* was produced by African Globe TheatreWorks and directed by their artistic director, James W. Lemon. The script was originated and written by the cast and staff.

Other able assistants were Clarissa Newby-Phillips, Choreographer, Sandra Barnhardt, Vocal Director, David Robinson and Jason Nesbit handled the music, Tiffanie Russell, Stage Manager, James R. Whiting, Set Construction, David Robinson, Jason Brown, and Michael Walker, Lighting, Vincent Potuto and Animation Class, Scenic Art, Robert Tibby, African Globe, the Case, CTS Dance Dept., Costumes, Romerio Knight, Sound Design, Knowledge Green, Curtains, D'Shea Montoute, Shanta Watson, Chamis Chapman, Naquanna Jenkins, and Antoinette Johnson, Ushers.

The force behind the spirited and committed efforts of the students is a dedicated principal, Laura W. Trimmings. For the past thirteen years, she has been in the same facility previously known as Vernon L. Davey Middle School, located in East Orange, New Jersey. After what was probably the most democratic system of inquiry, on November 5, 1995, Cicely Tyson School of Performing and fine Arts was born. After contacting Mrs. Tyson to obtain permission to use her name, certain ties to East Orange convinced her to lend her name only if she could play an integral part in the development of the school. Since that time, Mrs. Tyson has brought numerous artists to lecture and teach as well as teaching herself.

Presently there are 700 youngsters between the ages of 11 to 18 enrolled in grades 6 through 12. Mrs. Trimmings' most pressing concern is that this school become a true art school. In the year 2000, the forty two (42) senior graduates earned $900,000 in scholarships. As of May 31st, 2001, 54 young people have garnered $620,000 in scholarships. Her goal is to send every student to a facility of higher learning. Although the students come from all walks of life and economic status, only college prep courses are offered. It is also Mrs. Trimmings' hope that eventually, all admissions will be based solely on the audition process.

Register to VOTE

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We need
Jim McGreevey.

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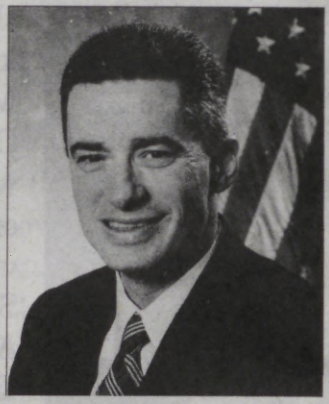

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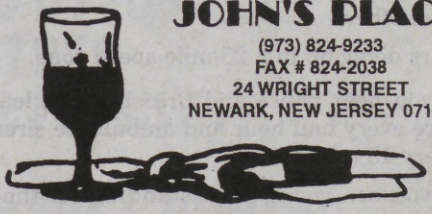

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THE SHADOW KNOWS...

The Shadow recently received a request to reprint **10 Ways to tell if you're in the 'ghetto'** – so here goes:

1. If you see trash, like White Castle boxes and potato chip bags on the street.
2. If you hear loud music coming from cars and buildings, mostly rap music with cursing.
3. Hear children and adults screaming to the top of their lungs across the street and at each other.
4. Cars doing 50 in a 25-mile speed zone.
5. If you hear police and fire sirens at least once every half hour and ambulance sirens every 15 minutes.
6. If you see young bros standing on the 4 corners during school hours with nothing to do but waste time.
7. When you see abandoned cars rusting away in people's back yards waiting for a miracle to happen.
8. When you see shower curtains up at the windows and no front door on the house.
9. If you see both men and women standing in a vacant dirty lot drinking alcoholic beverages out of a brown paper bag
10. And if you notice at least three abandoned burnt out houses within a three block area.

Then, you know you are in the ghetto. But, please remember ghettos are not born that way, it took years and years and generations of people to make them like that and even the projects were 'new' once.

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